

At page 21, rewrite the paragraph beginning at line 7 as follows:

G7 To check the genomic DNA integration of pRAGPR in the transgenic tobacco plants, gene-specific primers for the NPTII gene were employed. The primers used were NPTII-5' primer 5-GAA CAA GAT GCA TTG CAC GC-3' (SEQ ID NO:16) and NPTII-3' primer 5'-GAA GAA CTC GTC AAG AAG GC-3' (SEQ ID NO:17). Genomic DNA from each of the control lines and transgenic tobacco lines were isolated from the leaf tissue using the Qiagen DNAeasy kit as per manufacturer's instructions. PCR reactions (50- μ l final volume) were performed using 5 μ l of template DNA. Samples were heated to 95°C for 4 minutes, followed by 35 cycles of 95°C for 45 seconds, 55°C for 30 seconds, and 73°C for 2 minutes, with a final extension step of 73°C for 5 minutes in PTC100 thermal cycler (MJ Research). Amplified DNA fragments were analyzed on a 0.8% agarose gel and visualized by staining with ethidium bromide.

In the Claims:

- G8
5. (Twice amended) A DNA construct which comprises:
- (a) a promoter sequence as given in SEQ ID NO:1 or a functionally equivalent variant thereof which has at least 90% homology to SEQ ID NO:1 or as given in SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (b) an open reading frame polynucleotide coding for a peptide; and
 - (c) a termination sequence.
- G9
9. (Once amended) A construct according to claim 6 wherein said open reading frame polynucleotide encodes a peptide which, when expressed in reproductive tissue of a plant, causes said plant's reproductive organs to abort.
10. (Once amended) A construct according to claim 6 wherein said open reading frame polynucleotide encodes a peptide which, when expressed in reproductive tissue of a plant, causes said plant's reproductive organs to redefine themselves as vegetative.

11. (Once amended) A construct according to claim 6 wherein said open reading frame polynucleotide encodes a peptide which, when expressed in reproductive tissue of a plant, causes said plant's reproductive organs to stop development.

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12. (Once amended) A construct according to claim 6 wherein said open reading frame polynucleotide encodes a peptide which, when expressed in reproductive tissue of a plant, causes cell death.

16. (Once amended) A construct according to claim 6 wherein said open reading frame polynucleotide encodes a peptide which, when expressed in reproductive tissue of a plant, causes an alteration in the timing of flowering of said plant.

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17. (Once amended) A construct according to claim 5 which further includes:
(d) a selection marker sequence.

19. (Once amended) A transgenic plant cell which includes a construct according to claim 5.

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20. (Once amended) A transgenic plant which includes a construct according to claim 5.

21. (Once amended) A transgenic plant which contains a polynucleotide according to claim 1 or a promoter according to claim 5, which plant has a reduced reproductive capacity.

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25. (Once amended) A transgenic plant according to claim 20 wherein said plant is a coniferous plant.

G₁₃

28. (Once amended) A transgenic plant according to claim 20 wherein said plant is a tree.